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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/678,013	10/03/2000	Bruce Edward Ziegler	30602	4538

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SPRINT
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OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251-6100

EXAMINER

KADING, JOSHUA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2661

DATE MAILED: 02/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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7590 12/31/2003

STEVEN J. FUNK
SPRINT LAW DEPARTMENT
8140 WARD PARKWAY
MAILSTOP: MOKCMPO506
KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

EXAMINER

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DATE MAILED: 12/31/2003

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/678,013

Applicant(s)

ZIEGLER ET AL.

Examiner

Joshua Kading

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5,8-13 and 15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10/03/00 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 3, 5, and 15 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

- 5 Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form.

Claim 3 states, "the computer program as set forth in claim 2, wherein the administrator may make changes directly to one of the logical tables." Claim 2 states,
10 "the computer program as set forth in claim 1, wherein the retrieved information is presented in logical tables that may be modified by the administrator." Claim 2 already describes the administrator modifying or changing the logical tables, therefore claim 3 fails to further limit claim 2.

15 Claim 5 states, "the computer program as set forth in claim 1, further including a code segment for listing a plurality of voice-over-i.p. local routing switches that may be selected by the administrator." Claim 1 states, "... a code segment for permitting an administrator to select a voice-over-i.p. local routing switch..." Claim 1 implies there are a plurality of local switches because the local routing switch is selected, and to be
20 selected there must have been more than one choice; in addition there must be some type of list to choose the switch from, therefore claim 5 fails to further limit claim 1.

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Claim 15 states, "the system as set forth in claim 11, the server computer being further programmed to include a code segment for listing a plurality of voice-over-i.p. local routing switches that may be selected by the administrator." Claim 11 states, "...a code segment for permitting an administrator to select a voice-over-i.p. local routing switch from a list thereof displayed on the user computer..." Claim 11 shows there is a list of switches to choose from and the administrator selects the appropriate switch from the list, therefore claim 15 fails to further limit claim 11.

Claims 1, 4, 8-10, 11, 12, and 13 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 7 states, "data tables in the". It should read, --data tables from the--.

Claim 4, line 24 states, "save a logical table to a file". It should read, --save a logical table from said logical tables to a file--.

Claim 8, line 15 states, "modified by the administrator". It should read, --modified by an administrator--.

Claim 9, line 17 states, "the administrator". It should read, --an administrator--.

Claim 9, line 18 states, "of logical tables". It should read, --of a plurality of logical tables--.

Claim 10, line 20 states, "the administrator". It should read, --an administrator--.

Claim 11, line 9 states, "data tables in". It should read, --data tables from--.

Claim 12, line 22 states, "in logical tables". It should read, --in a plurality of logical tables--.

Claim 13, line 25 states, "of logical tables". It should read, --of a plurality of logical tables--.

5 Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

10 (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15 Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-14, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leong et al. (U.S. Patent 6,269,398 B1).

20 In regard to claim 1, Leong discloses "an administrator to select a...local routing switch (figure 3A, step 302 where identifying is the same as selecting); listing data tables in the...local routing switch (figure 13, where all the entries are different routing table or routing interface entries); the administrator to select one of the data tables (figure 13 where the square around the first entry means the administrator has selected that data table); retrieving information from the selected data table and for displaying the

25 information (figure 14, where the information displayed is the data table chosen in the previous step); permitting the administrator to make changes to the retrieved

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information (figure 14, element 1405 permits the administrator to change the table); and sending changes made to the retrieved information to an interface on the... local routing switch so that the changes may be incorporated in the data table (figure 14, element 1406 allows the changes to be sent or applied to the selected router)." However, Leong lacks "a computer program" to perform the method and "a voice-over-i.p." routing switch.

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program with the method for the purpose of allowing the administrator to obtain and change information about the network that only a computer program can obtain and change. The motivation being that a computer program is the most efficient way of performing the method.

It also would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the VoIP routing switch with the method as an obvious design choice. The motivation being that there needs to be a router at the network level to have communication and the type of router is a design choice as any router performs the same generic function of routing information from one place to another.

In regard to claim 2, Leong discloses "...the retrieved information is presented in logical tables that may be modified by the administrator (figure 14 where the information is in a table and element 1405 allows for changes to the table)." However, Leong lacks "the computer program as set forth in claim 1..." It would have been obvious to one with

ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program with the logical tables for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 1.

In regard to claim 4, Leong discloses "...the administrator may save a logical
5 table to a file and perform changes to the file (figure 14, where the save button allows the administrator to save the table to a file)." However, Leong lacks "the computer program as set forth in claim 2..." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program with the saving of the logical table for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 2.

10

In regard to claim 6, Leong discloses "...the administrator to search for
information in the data table (figure 14 where the table is set up so that the administrator can simply look at the organized columns and data to search for the information desired)." However, Leong lacks "the computer program as set forth in claim 1, further
15 including a code segment for permitting..." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program with the searching of the logical tables for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 1.

In regard to claim 7, Leong discloses "a method for modifying data tables
20 contained in a...local routing switch, the method comprising the steps of: selecting a...local routing switch from a list thereof displayed on a computer (figure 3A, step 302 where identifying is the same as selecting and as can be seen in figures 4-20 all

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selecting and modifying of data is done by computer display); selecting a data table supported by the selected...local routing switch from a list thereof presented on the computer (figure 13 where the square around the first entry means the administrator has selected that data table); searching for information in the selected data table by
5 entering search criteria in the computer (figure 14 where the table is set up so that the administrator can simply look at the organized columns and data to search for the information desired); modifying the information (figure 14, element 1405 permits the administrator to change the table); and sending the modifications to an interface on the...local routing switch using the computer so that the modifications may be
10 incorporated in the data table (figure 14, element 1406 allows the changes to be sent or applied to the selected router).” However, Leong lacks “a voice-over-i.p.” routing switch.

It also would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the VoIP routing switch with the method as an obvious design choice. The motivation being that there needs to be a router at the network level to have
15 communication and the type of router is a design choice as any router performs the same generic function of routing information from one place to another.

In regard to claim 8, Leong discloses “the method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the information is presented in logical tables that may be modified by the administrator
20 (figure 14 where the information is in a table).” However, Leong lacks “the voice over-i.p. routing switch. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the

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time of invention to include the switch with the logical tables for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 7.

In regard to claim 9, Leong discloses "the method as set forth in claim 7, wherein
5 the administrator may make changes directly to one of the logical tables (figure 14
where the information is in a table and element 1405 allows for changes to the table)."
However, Leong lacks "the voice over-i.p. routing switch. It would have been obvious to
one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the switch with the
modifying of logical tables for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 7.

10

In regard to claim 10, Leong discloses "the method as set forth in claim 7,
wherein the administrator may save a logical table to a file and perform changes to the
file (figure 14, where the save button allows the administrator to save the table to a
file)." However, Leong lacks "the voice over-i.p. routing switch. It would have been
15 obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the switch
with the saving of logical tables for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 7.

In regard to claim 11, Leong discloses "a system for modifying data tables
contained in a...local routing switch, the system comprising:

20 a server computer (col. 6, lines 44-48 and col. 7, lines 6-10 where it is saying that
one of these units can function as a network manager or server); and
a user computer (col. 6, lines 44-48);

...an administrator to select a...local routing switch from a list thereof displayed on the user computer (figure 3A, step 302 where identifying is the same as selecting); listing data tables in the...local routing switch (figure 13, where all the entries are different routing table or routing interface entries); the administrator to select one of the

5 data tables from a list thereof displayed on the user computer (figure 13 where the square around the first entry means the administrator has selected that data table); retrieving information from the selected data table and for displaying the information on the user computer (figure 14, where the information displayed is the data table chosen in the previous step); permitting the administrator to make changes to the retrieved

10 information (figure 14, element 1405 permits the administrator to change the table); sending changes made to the retrieved information to an interface on the...local routing switch so that the changes may be incorporated in the data table (figure 14, element 1406 allows the changes to be sent or applied to the selected router)." However, Leong lacks "a computer program" to perform the method and "a voice-over-i.p." routing

15 switch.

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program with the method for the purpose of allowing the administrator to obtain and change information about the network that only a computer program can obtain and change. The motivation being that a computer

20 program is the most efficient way of performing the method.

It also would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the VoIP routing switch with the method as an obvious design

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choice. The motivation being that there needs to be a router at the network level to have communication and the type of router is a design choice as any router performs the same generic function of routing information from one place to another.

5 In regard to claim 12, Leong discloses "...the retrieved information is presented in logical tables that may be modified by the administrator (figure 14 where the information is in a table and element 1405 allows for changes to the table)." However, Leong lacks "the computer program as set forth in claim 11..." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the
10 computer program with the logical tables for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

 In regard to claim 13, Leong discloses "...the administrator may make changes directly to one of the logical tables (figure 14 where the information is in a table and
15 element 1405 allows for changes to the table)." However, Leong lacks "the voice over-i.p. routing switch. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the switch with the modifying of logical tables for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

20 In regard to claim 14, Leong discloses "...the administrator may save a logical table to a file and perform changes to the file (figure 14, where the save button allows the administrator to save the table to a file)." However, Leong lacks "the computer

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program as set forth in claim 11..." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program with the saving of the logical table for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

5 In regard to claim 16, Leong discloses "...the administrator to search for information in the data table (figure 14 where the table is set up so that the administrator can simply look at the organized columns and data to search for the information desired)." However, Leong lacks "the computer program as set forth in claim 11, further including a code segment for permitting..." It would have been obvious to one with
10 ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program with the searching of the logical tables for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua Kading whose telephone number is (703) 305-
15 0342. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas Olms can be reached on (703) 305-4703. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or
20 proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Joshua Kading


KENNETH VANDERPUYE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Application/Control Number: 09/678,013
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JK' with a flourish.

JK
December 22, 2003

Examiner
Art Unit 2661